



Spring 1 Newsletter 2025

Hello from Mrs Trew

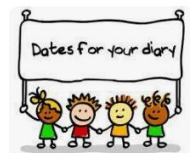
Dear families,

As you all know, our much-anticipated visit from OFSTED came on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd January. We are yet to receive our report from the Inspector, but I can certainly share that it was a very positive experience and that we feel that we were able to highlight the many strengths of Summerside. Preparing for inspection and indeed the inspection itself, requires everyone to pull together and I would like to say a huge and heartfelt THANK YOU to every staff member who worked tirelessly to ensure its success.

I would also like to thank you, my wonderful families, as the feedback we received from the parent survey was so complimentary and I felt incredibly proud hearing them all.

Have a lovely half term break and we will see you all on the 24th February.

UPCOMING DATES



February Dates	
Friday 14th February	School finishes at 3.30pm
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	Half Term
Monday 24th February	Start of term - school re-opens for children
Tuesday 25th February	SATS Information meeting for Year 6 families 5pm – TEAMS (online)
Wednesday 26th February	SEN Meetings for families – 3.45 - 5pm
Thursday 27 th February	Phonics Screening Check information meeting for Yr 1 families

March Dates	
Friday 7th March	Class Assembly – Titan 4
Monday 10 th March	Book Fair in school
Tuesday 12 th March	Year 6 Trip – October Gallery
Thursday 13 th March	Barnet Dance Festival
Friday 14th March	Class Assembly – Jupiter 1
	Year 2 Trip to Science Museum
Tuesday 18 th March	Yr5 Parents Evening
Thursday 20 th March	Year 5 Trip to Bushey Park
Friday 21 st March	Comic Relief
	Year 4 Trip to Buddhist Centre
Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th March	Parents Evening for Families
Wednesday 27 th March	Easter lunch for children including Easter bonnet competition judging.
April Dates	
Tuesday 1 st April	Year 4 Concert in the Royal Albert Hall
Wednesday 2 nd April	Easter Bonnet Parade and Easter lunch
Friday 4th April	Class Assembly – Orion 3
	Last Day of term – 1.30pm finish
Monday 7th April – Monday 15 th April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 22nd April	Start of term - school re-opens for children

School Councillors

The School Councillors met the Governors just before we finished for the Christmas holidays so that they could find out the views of the children. When the Governors asked the children what they think their role is in the school, they described them as the 'Jedi Council'!!!

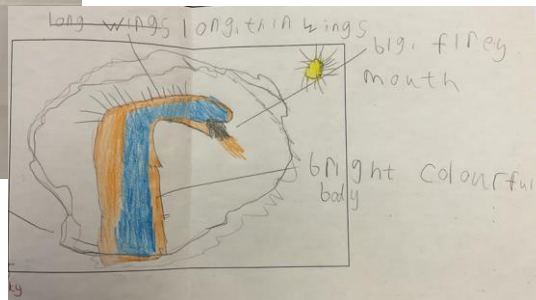
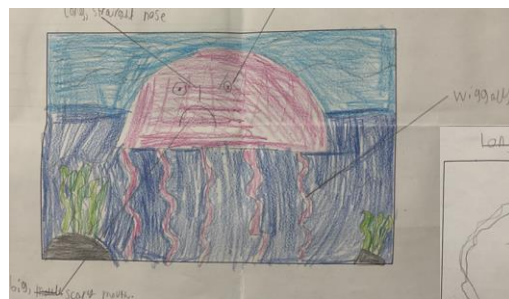
At our recent meeting with the Governors, we gave them all a light sabres for them to do their good work..... Let the force be with them!!!



Provision for Children who are Deaf



In English, we have been looking at *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson. We acted out the story with puppets and then we made Owl on Toast and acted being the Gruffalo to eat it.



In Key Stage 2 English, we read different Anglo-Saxon legend stories. We familiarised ourselves with the story structure, created our own evil mythical creature and wrote our own legend stories.

Nursery

This half term we have had a fantastic time learning about the Season of Winter, People Who Help Us and Emotions.

We had an exciting visit from the Finchley Fire Fighters.

We learned about, Dentists, Doctors and Vets and got into role to explore their jobs.

We enjoyed the Mental Health Awareness Day and dressed up as an emotion inspired by the Inside Out Film Characters.



Reception

This half term we have been learning about Everyday Superheroes.

We had a visit from the Finchley firefighters and the children enjoyed climbing on the engine and squirting the hose.

The children have learned about and acted in role as firefighters, doctors, dentists, paramedics and vets.

We celebrated Chinese New Year by making decorations and cooking and eating noodles.



Year 1

For our 11 before 11 promise, Year 1 have been busy creating a gigantic gingerbread house! This was inspired by the story of Hansel and Gretel in our English topic of Traditional Tales. We made roof tiles from paper plates, sweets from recycled egg cups and shiny paper! Then we wrote descriptions of the house using lots of adjectives.



We also went on an exciting trip to Compton school. We had a fantastic PE lesson with the Year 11 students at Compton school and we had so much fun!



Year 2

This term, for our 'Animals including Science' topic in Science, we learned all about the life-cycles and stages of different animals. We were incredibly lucky to observe all 10 chicks hatching from their eggs in the incubator and growing into little, fluffy bundles of joy!



In our History lessons, we have been learning about the 'Nurturing Nurses' Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale.

In English, we read 'Hoorah for Mary Seacole' by Trish Cooke, and we wrote persuasive letters from Florence to improve the hospital conditions during that time.



In English, we also read 'The Rascally Cake' by Jeanne Willis. We wrote our own instructions for making a disgusting cake and then we made them!



Year 3

This term we have been learning about volcanoes. We learnt about the layers of the earth and what happens when a volcano erupts. Additionally, we read about Mt Vesuvius and Mt Etna. On our Geography Topic Day, we enjoyed creating and erupting our own volcanoes.



In our English lessons, we conducted online research about an animal of our choosing. During this process, we made notes on its appearance, behaviour and diet. We then utilised these notes to create a detailed report. Later in the term, we tapped into our imaginations and produced our own narrative endings to the story 'Into The Forest'. It was great going on a trip and considering how our senses responded to the forest environment. We also retraced the steps of the main protagonist and embraced the magical fairytale elements of the book and trip!

Year 4

We have had a fantastic start to the Spring term in year 4. We have been really enjoying our ukulele lessons with Sarah and can't wait to continue next term.



We have all loved reading the Anglo-Saxon legend 'Beowulf'! We wrote our own legends and are in the middle of writing newspaper reports as if we were witnesses to the attack of Grendel!

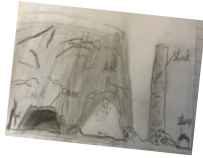
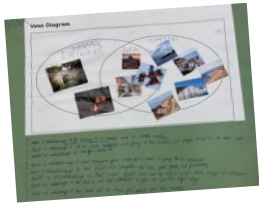
In History, we got to look at some real Anglo-Saxon artefacts to help us find out more about what life would have been like at the time. We thought about the skills that were needed to make the different artefacts and what it can tell us about who the Anglo-Saxons really were.



In science, we have been learning all about teeth and the digestive system. We have done some fun experiments looking at how sugary drinks can damage our teeth and even creating our own model of a digestive system using tights for the intestines!

Year 5

For our geography topic, 'Cool Coasts', we learned about how beaches are formed plus the problems caused by coastal erosion. We also discussed the effects of tourism on a coastal town in terms of the environment, economy and employment.



In ART, our task was to design an embellishment for an item of clothing. We first looked at examples of Louise Gardiner designs and then experimented with different stitches, beading and using simpler designs. Then we created our own design and finally produced our own embellishments.



In Science, we explored forces such as air resistance and gravity. We enjoyed working in groups to make 3 parachutes, choosing only one variable to change such as material, length of string, size or shape. We then measured the effect of that change on the parachutes' performance and recorded our results.



In Maths, we have been working with decimal fractions and comparing halves, fifths, quarters and tenths.

In English, we researched and then wrote a non-chronological report about the planets in our solar system. We focused on physical features including appearance and composition as well as exploration and, of course, adding fascinating facts! We then published our writing in our neatest handwriting.

In R.E we have considered how people show commitment to God and looked specifically at Jewish Rites of passage.

Year 6

We were lucky enough to be invited to Compton School to be taught a dance lesson by Year 11 girls. We really enjoyed it and worked up a sweat! It was exciting to see what a secondary school was like!



We have had an exhausting term working hard on our learning, but we have had some amazing experiences too!

In DT, we designed hats for an occasion, inspired by designer Philip Treacy. We had to create reinforced structures which looked visually appealing and represented our interests. We hope to have a fashion show at some point...



We have learnt all about the Maya civilisation: what clothes they wore, who they worshipped, what society was like and even made some Maya chocolate – a bit bitter for everyone's tastes!



We were so lucky to have the National Theatre join us for a workshop based on Ballet Shoes. We learnt about theatre roles 'behind the scenes', and became costume designers, set designers, directors and choreographers for the morning.

To top this off, we even got to see Ballet Shoes performed at the Olivier Theatre in Central London. The staging and visual effects were so impressive, and we found it such an immersive performance.



Children's Mental Health Week

This year the theme for Children's Mental Health Week was 'Know yourself, grow yourself'. As a school we love to support the work that the Place2be charity does and were more than happy to raise some money and dress up with their theme in mind and association with the lovely film Inside Out. The children, and the adults more so, enjoyed dressing up as one of the emotions last Friday as well as taking part in various activities in class throughout the week. Thank you so much to everyone that contributed, we raised £246.50!!



Improving
children's
mental health



Summerside's Sports Review

Year 6 Basketball Competition

Year 6 took to the courts of Cophall Leisure Centre to compete against other Barnet schools.

Team Summerside played amazingly well against some tough opposing school, showing their impressive skills and great teamwork.

Highlight of the day goes to Matteo, shooting 5 long range 3point baskets in a single game which wowed onlookers.



Well done Team Summerside!!!



Keenyah's impressive run continues.

After a successful qualification representing the borough of Barnet, Keenyah participated in the 2025 Middlesex schools Cross Country Championships.

Being the only year 6 child out of 66 year 7 participants, so it was a tall order before it began, but that didn't faze her as she finished an impressive 7th.

We are all proud of you Keenyah, keep up the hard work!



Summerside's Sports Review

Primary Schools Panathlon.

Children from years 3 & 5 took a visit to Copthall Leisure Center for a rotation based multi-sports competition including games such as Skittles, Boccia, Kurling, Football plus many others. Collecting points throughout, they all managed to receive runners up medals. Well Done!



GOLDEN CYCLE







The Golden Cycle is in its 6th year and is growing from strength to strength. It works in accordance with our behaviour system as an incentive for children to approach their day the best they can.

Children from year 1 up to year 6 aim for the chance to take on the challenge by being awarded either a Gold card or for being the class Star of the Week. They will then take a trip to Mr B's office where the famous Golden Cycle lives and compete in a two-minute cycle challenge against their peers within their year group as well as trying to beat their previous high score. Gold medals and certificates are then handed out to the Top 5 boy and girls at the end of each term.








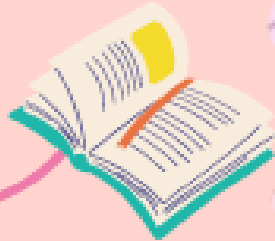

Current Gold Medalists



WORLD BOOK DAY

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day with a number of events throughout the week.

This year we would like to promote the theme of sustainability and would ask that all costumes are upcycled, don't buy new - reuse!

- Get cozy and read afternoons - pyjamas are a must!
 - Dress up day - 6th March
 - The Great Big Footy & Booky Quiz
 - Arts & Crafts
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Movie Night

The children had a brilliant time at Movie Night this week. They enjoyed their pizza and spending time with their friends. We also raised an incredible **£915.50** for our school funds!



Music at Summerside

Click on the link for more details:
<https://www.pianofunclub.co.uk/>



Piano Fun Club

Enrichment Activities:

Some children take part in Spanish Club and were pretending that they had gone to the beach. They were learning different words in Spanish and singing songs in Spanish too. They even enjoyed a lolly!

As part of our Enrichment offer, some children have signed up for Careers Club and have taken part in a fantastic workshop where they had the opportunity to learn about different people's careers. They had to complete a worksheet and answer clues about what they thought that person did for a job.



Attendance (Spring 1)

Attendance continues to be below Summerside's expectations (95%). Poor attendance at Summerside will be challenged as it causes pupils to fall behind with their learning. Holidays during term time will not be authorised and may lead to a fine on your return.

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	86.%
Year 1	86.%
Year 2	90.%
Year 3	94.%
Year 4	91%
Year 5	94%
Year 6	94%

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